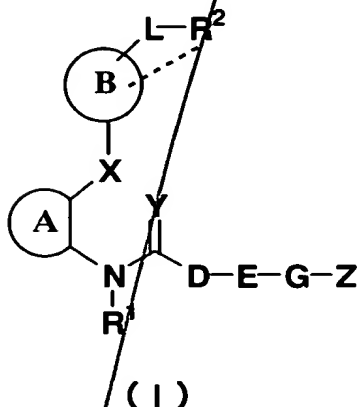


CLAIMS

1. A Compound of the following formula, or a salt thereof:



wherein Ring A represents an optionally-substituted aromatic ring; Ring B represents an optionally-substituted cyclic hydrocarbon group; Z represents an optionally-substituted cyclic group; R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally-substituted hydrocarbon group, an optionally-substituted heterocyclic group, or an acyl group; R² represents an optionally-substituted amino group; D represents a chemical bond or a divalent group; E represents -CO-, -CON(R^a)-, COO-, -N(R^a)CON(R^b)-, -N(R^a)COO-, -N(R^a)SO₂-, -N(R^a)-, -O-, -S-, -SO- or -SO₂- (in which R^a and R^b each independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally-substituted hydrocarbon group); G represents a chemical bond or a divalent group; L represents (1) a chemical bond or (2) a divalent hydrocarbon group optionally having from 1 to 5 substituents selected from;

25 (i) a C₁₋₆ alkyl group,

(ii) a halogeno-C₁₋₆ alkyl group,

(iii) a phenyl group,

(iv) a benzyl group,

(v) an optionally-substituted amino group,

5 (vi) an optionally-substituted hydroxy group, and

(vii) a carbamoyl or thiocarbamoyl group optionally substituted by:

<1> a C₁₋₆ alkyl group,

<2> an optionally-substituted phenyl group, or

10 <3> an optionally-substituted heterocyclic group,

and optionally interrupted by -O- or -S-; X represents an oxygen atom, an optionally-oxidized sulfur atom, an optionally-substituted nitrogen atom, or an optionally-substituted divalent hydrocarbon group; Y represents two hydrogen atoms,
15 an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; means that R² may be bonded to the atom on Ring B to form a ring.

2. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein L is an alkylene group optionally interrupted by -O- and optionally substituted by a C₁₋₆ alkyl group.

20 3. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein L is a C₁₋₆ alkylene group.

4. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R² is (1) an unsubstituted amino group, (2) a piperidyl group, or (3) an amino group optionally having one or two substituents
25 selected from (i) a benzyl group, (ii) a C₁₋₆ alkyl group

optionally substituted by an amino or phenyl group, (iii) a (mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl)-carbamoyl or -thiocarbamoyl group, (iv) a C₁₋₆ alkoxy-carbenyl group, (v) a C₁₋₆ alkyl-sulfonyl group, (vi) a piperidylcarbonyl group, and (vii) a C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by a halogen atom or an amino group.

5 5. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R² is an unsubstituted amino group.

10 6. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein A is an optionally-substituted benzene or pyridine ring.

7. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein B is an optionally-substituted benzene ring.

8. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein E is -CON(R^a)-.

15 9. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein X is an oxygen atom.

10. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein D is a C₁₋₆ alkylene group.

20 11. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein G is a C₁₋₆ alkylene group.

12. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein G is an optionally-substituted divalent hydrocarbon group, and Ring B along with R² does not form a nitrogen-containing hetero ring.

25 13. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein E is -CON(R^a)-, G is an optionally-substituted divalent hydrocarbon

Sub
a15

group, Y is two hydrogen atoms, R^1 is an acyl group, and Ring B along with R^2 does not form a nitrogen-containing hetero ring.

14. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Ring A is an optionally-substituted benzene or pyridine ring;

5 Ring B is a benzene or cyclohexane ring optionally substituted by a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, or is a tetrahydroisoquinoline or isoindoline ring formed along with R^2 bonded thereto;

10 Z is a C_{6-14} aryl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, piperidyl, thienyl, furyl, pyridyl, thiazolyl, indanyl or indolyl group optionally having from 1 to 3 substituents selected from a halogen atom, a formyl group, a halogeno- C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} alkyl-carbonyl group, an oxo group and a pyrrolidinyl group;

15 D is a C_{1-6} alkylene group;

G is a chemical bond, or a C_{1-6} alkylene group optionally having a phenylene group and optionally substituted by a phenyl group;

20 R^1 is (a) a hydrogen atom, (b) a C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{6-14} aryl or C_{7-14} aralkyl group optionally substituted by substituent(s) selected from (1) a halogen atom, (2) a nitro group, (3) an amino group optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from a C_{1-6} alkyl-carbonyl group, a C_{6-14} aryl-carbonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkyloxy-carbonyl group, a C_{7-14} aralkyloxy-carbonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkyl-sulfonyl

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group and a C₆₋₁₄ aryl-sulfonyl group, (4) (i) a C₁₋₆ alkyl group optionally substituted by a hydroxy group, a C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbonyl group, a C₆₋₁₄ aryl-carbonyl group, a carboxyl group or a C₁₋₆ alkoxy-carbonyl group, (ii) a phenyl group optionally substituted by a hydroxy group, (iii) a benzoyl group, or (iv) a hydroxy group optionally substituted by a mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkylamino-carbonyl group, (5) a C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl group, (6) a phenyl group optionally substituted by a hydroxy group or a halogeno-C₁₋₆ alkyl group, and (7) a thienyl group, a furyl group, a thiazolyl group, an indanyl group, an indolyl or a benzyloxycarbonylpiperidyl group, or (c) an acyl group;

R² is (1) an unsubstituted amino group, (2) a piperidyl group, or (3) an amino group optionally having one or two substituents selected from (i) a benzyl group, (ii) a C₁₋₆ alkyl group optionally substituted by an amino or phenyl group, (iii) a mono- or di-C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbamoyl or -thiocarbamoyl group, (iv) a C₁₋₆ alkoxy-carbonyl group, (v) a C₁₋₆ alkyl-sulfonyl group, (vi) a piperidylcarbonyl group, and (vii) a C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by a halogen atom or an amino group;

E is -CO-, -CON(R^a)-, -N(R^a)CO (in which R^a is a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₆ alkyl group); and

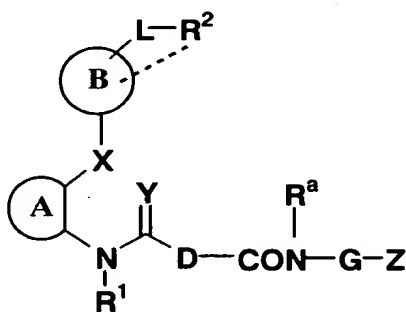
L is a C₁₋₆ alkylene group optionally interrupted by -O- and optionally substituted by a C₁₋₆ alkyl group.

15. A Compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Z is a

phenyl group optionally substituted by a halogen atom; D is
 a C₁₋₆ alkylene group; G is a C₁₋₆ alkylene group; R¹ is (a) a
 C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₇₋₁₄ aralkyl group optionally substituted by
 substituent(s) selected from (1) a hydroxy group, (2) a phenyl
 5 group, (3) a thienyl, furyl, thiazolyl, indanyl, indolyl or
 benzyloxycarbonyl~~carboxyl~~pyrrolidyl group, and (4) an amino group
 optionally substituted by a C₁₋₆ alkyl-carbonyl, C₆₋₁₄ aryl-
 carbonyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl-sulfonyl or C₆₋₁₄ aryl-sulfonyl group, or
 (b) an acyl group; R² is an unsubstituted amino group; E is
 10 -CON(R^a)-; L is a C₁₋₆ alkylene group; and Y is two hydrogen
 atoms.

16. A prodrug comprising a compound of claim 1 or its
 salt.

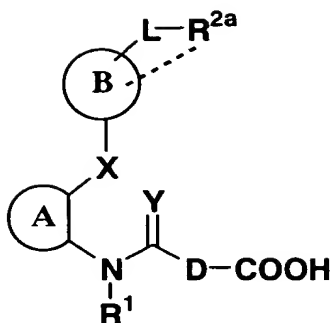
17. A method for producing a compound of a formula
 15 (I-a):



(I - a)

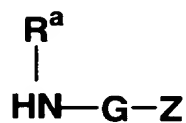
wherein the symbols have the same meanings as in claim 1, or
 25 a salt thereof, which comprises reacting a compound of a formula

(IIa):



(IIa)

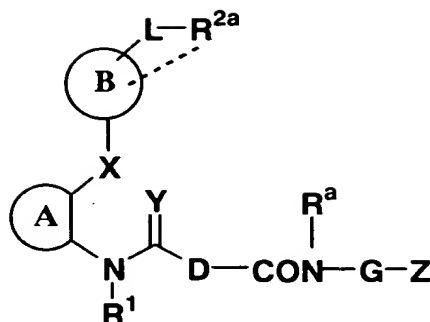
5 wherein R^{2a} represents an optionally-protected, optionally-substituted amino group; and the other symbols have the same meanings as in claim 1, or its reactive derivative or salt with a compound of a formula (III):



(III)

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wherein the symbols have the same meanings as in claim 1, or its salt to give a compound of a formula (Ia-a):



(1a-a)

5 wherein the symbols have the same meanings as above, or its salt, optionally followed by de-protecting it.

18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 or its salt.

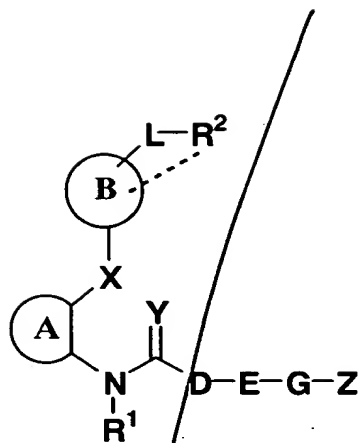
10 19. The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 18, which is a somatostatin receptor function-regulating agent.

20. The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 18, of which the somatostatin receptor function-regulating agent is a somatostatin receptor agonist.

15 21. The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 18, which is for preventing or treating diabetes, obesity, complications of diabetes, or intractable diarrhea.

22. A method for regulating the somatostatin receptor function, which comprises administering a compound of a formula

(I):



wherein Ring A represents an optionally-substituted aromatic ring; Ring B represents an optionally-substituted cyclic hydrocarbon group; Z represents an optionally-substituted cyclic group; R^1 represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally-substituted hydrocarbon group, an optionally-substituted heterocyclic group, or an acyl group; R^2 represents an optionally-substituted amino group; D represents a chemical bond or a divalent group; E represents $-CO-$, $-CON(R^a)-$, $COO-$, $-N(R^a)CON(R^b)-$, $-N(R^a)COO-$, $-N(R^a)SO_2-$, $-N(R^a)-$, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-SO-$ or $-SO_2-$ (in which R^a and R^b each independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally-substituted hydrocarbon group); G represents a chemical bond or a divalent group; L represents (1) a chemical bond or (2) a divalent hydrocarbon group optionally having from 1 to 5 substituents selected from;

(i) a C_{1-6} alkyl group,

(ii) a halogeno-C₁₋₆ alkyl group,

(iii) a phenyl group,

(iv) a benzyl group,

(v) an optionally-substituted amino group,

5 (vi) an optionally-substituted hydroxy group, and

(vii) a carbamoyl or thiocarbamoyl group optionally substituted by:

<1> a C₁₋₆ alkyl group,

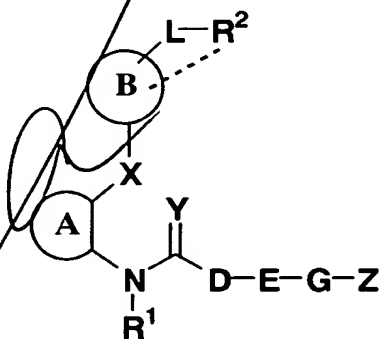
<2> an optionally-substituted phenyl group, or

10 <3> an optionally-substituted heterocyclic group,

and optionally interrupted by -O- or -S-; X represents an oxygen atom, an optionally-oxidized sulfur atom, an optionally-substituted nitrogen atom, or an optionally-substituted divalent hydrocarbon group; Y represents two hydrogen atoms, an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; means that R² may be bonded to the atom on Ring B to form a ring, or its salt.

23. Use of a compound of a formula (I):

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(I)

25

wherein Ring A represents an optionally-substituted aromatic ring; Ring B represents an optionally-substituted cyclic hydrocarbon group; Z represents an optionally-substituted cyclic group; R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, an

5 optionally-substituted hydrocarbon group, an optionally-substituted heterocyclic group, or an acyl group; R² represents an optionally-substituted amino group; D represents a chemical bond or a divalent group; E represents -CO-, -CON(R^a)-, COO-, -N(R^a)CON(R^b)-, -N(R^a)COO-, -N(R^a)SO₂-, -N(R^a)-, -O-, -S-, -SO- or -SO₂- (in which R^a and R^b each independently represent
10 a hydrogen atom or an optionally-substituted hydrocarbon group); G represents a chemical bond or a divalent group; L represents (1) a chemical bond or (2) a divalent hydrocarbon group optionally having from 1 to 5 substituents selected from;

- 15 (i) a C₁₋₆ alkyl group,
(ii) a halogeno-C₁₋₆ alkyl group,
(iii) a phenyl group,
(iv) a benzyl group,
(v) an optionally-substituted amino group,
20 (vi) an optionally-substituted hydroxy group, and
(vii) a carbamoyl or thiocarbamoyl group optionally substituted by:

- <1> a C₁₋₆ alkyl group,
<2> an optionally-substituted phenyl group, or
25 <3> an optionally-substituted heterocyclic group,

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